IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In Re Patent Application of: |) | | |
|---|-------------|-----------|------------------|
| Shoji Suzuki et al. |) | Examiner: | Not yet assigned |
| Application No.: Not yet assigned |) | Art Unit: | Not yet assigned |
| Filed: Herewith |) | | |
| For: A MAGNETIC RECORDING DISK HAVING A TRANSITION ZONE |))) | | |
| a Continuation-in-part of | _/) | | |
| Application No. 10/382,635 |) | | |
| Filed: March 5, 2003 |) _) | | |
| Commissioner for Potents | | | |

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Enclosed is a copy of Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO-1449 together with copies of the foreign patent documents and non-patent literature cited on that form. It is respectfully requested that the cited documents be considered and that the enclosed copy of Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO-1449 be initialed by the Examiner to indicate such consideration and a copy thereof returned to applicants.

| "Express Mail" mailing label number: EV336588255US |
|--|
| Date of Deposit: 11/03/03 |
| I hereby certify that I am causing this paper or fee to be deposited with the United States Postal Service |
| "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service on the date indicated above and that this paper or fee has |
| been addressed to Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. |
| JUANITA BRISCOE |
| (Typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee) |
| - Statulize |
| (Signature of person mailing paper or fee) |
| 11/03/03 |
| (Date signed) |

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, the submission of this Information Disclosure

Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed as an admission that the information cited in this statement is material to patentability.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted under one of the following (as indicated by an "X" to the left of the appropriate paragraph):

| X | 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b). |
|---|---|
| | 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). If so, then enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement is <u>one</u> of the following: |
| | A statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or |
| | A check for \$180.00 for the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). |
| | 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). If so, then enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement are the following: |
| | (1) A statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e); and |

(2) A check for \$180.00 for the fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of the Information Disclosure Statement.

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 1/3, 2003

Daniel E. Ovanezian

Reg. No. 41,236

12400 Wilshire Blvd.

Seventh Floor

Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026

(408) 720-8300

| Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO (Modified) (use as many sheets as necessary) | | | | | Attorney Docket No.: 004085.P037 | Application Numb | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|---|--|---|
| • | | | | | First Named Inventor: Shoji Suzuki | | |
| | | | | | Filing Date: Herewith | | |
| | | | U | .S. PATEN | T DOCUMENTS | | |
| Exam. Initial* | Cite No. ¹ | U.S. Patent Number Code ² | Kind (If known) | Na | ame of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | 6,597,539 | | | Stupp et al. | 7/22/03 | |
| | | 6,563,673 | | | Mundt et al. | 5/13/03 | |
| | | 6,529,347 | | | Hipwell et al. | 3/4/03 | |
| | | 6,473,259 | | | Kuo et al. | 10/29/02 | |
| | | 6,381,090 | | | Suzuki et al. | 4/30/02 | |
| | | 6,330,124 | | | Tsukamoto et al. | 12/11/01 | |
| | | 6,139,936 | | | Weiss | 10/31/00 | |
| | | 6,075,683 | | | Harwood et al. | 6/13/00 | |
| | | 6,057,984 | | | Arita et al. | 5/2/00 | |
| | | 6,020,045 | | , | Chen et al. | 2/1/00 | |

| | FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--|---|---|--|---|---|----------------|--|--|--|--|
| Exam. Initial* | Cite No. ¹ | Fore Office ³ Code ⁵ | eign Patent Docume Number [‡] Kind (If k | | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD- YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ | | | | |
| | | PCT | WO02/084650A1 | - | International Business Machines Corporation | 10/24/02 | | | | | | |
| | _ | PCT | WO02/19330A1 | | International Business Machines Corporation | 3/7/02 | | | | | | |

| Examiner | Date Considered | |
|-----------|-----------------|--|
| Signature | | |

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard S.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

| Substi | | Form 1449A/PTO (Modifimany sheets as necessary) | ed) | | Attorney Docket No.: 004085.P037 | Application Num Not yet assign | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|---|---------|----------|--|--|---|
| | | | | | First Named Inventor: Shoji Suzuki | | |
| | | | | | Filing Date: Herewith | | |
| | | | U.S. PA | ATENT DO | DCUMENTS | | |
| Exam. Initial* | Cite No. ¹ | ite U.S. Patent Document | | Nar | ne of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | 5,875,083 | | | Oniki et al. | 2/23/99 | |
| | | 5,870,250 | | | Bolasna et al. | 2/9/99 | |
| | | 5,798,164 | | | Weiss et al. | 8/25/98 | |
| · | | 5,673,156 | | | Chen et al. | 9/30/97 | |
| | | 5,377,058 | | | Good et al. | 12/27/94 | |
| | | US2002/0024774A1 | | | Berger et al. | 2/28/02 | |
| | | US2002/0030937A1 | | | Liu | 3/14/02 | |
| | | US2002/0181153A1 | | | Kang | 12/5/02 | |

| | FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--|-------------------------|------------------------------|-----|--|--|---|----------------|--|--|
| Exam. Initial* | Cite No. ¹ | Fore Office ³ Code ⁵ | eign Patent D Number | Nocument Kind (If know | wn) | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD- YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Examiner | Date Considered | |
|-----------|-----------------|--|
| Signature | | |

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard S.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

| Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO (Modified) (use as many sheets as necessary) | | | Attorney Docket No.: Application Number: Not yet assigned | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|--|---|------|--|--|--|--|
| | | | First Named Inventor: Shoji Su | zuki | | | | |
| | | | Filing Date: Herewith | | | | | |
| | _ | OTHER ART - NO PATENT | LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL L of the item (book, magazine, journal, seria issue number(s), publisher, o | | | | | | |
| | | Patent Abstracts of Japan, Publication N | To. 11-273061, 8/10/99. | | | | | |
| | | Patent Abstracts of Japan, Publication No. 2000-251249, 9/14/00. | | | | | | |
| | | Patent Abstracts of Japan, Publication No. 09-167305, 6/24/97. | | | | | | |
| | | Patent Abstracts of Japan, Publication N | To. 09-081932, 3/28/97. | | | | | |
| | | Patent Abstracts of Japan, Publication No. 2000-293840, 10/20/00. | | | | | | |
| Shoji Tanaka et al. "Characterization of Magnetizing Process for Pre-Embossed Servo Pattern of Plastic Hard Disks", IEEE Transactions on Magnetics, Vol. 30, No. 6, November 1994, p. 4209-4211. | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Examiner | | | Date | | | | | |

Considered

4.4

Signature

ĭ

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

^{*}Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.